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Flashback

The Journal of the Washington County Historical Society

Archibald Yell Law Office
On site behind Yell's
Fayetteville Home.

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Flashback, preserving the
past for the future

Preserving The Past For The Future
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THE ARCHIBALD YELL FAMILY

THIRTEEN YEARS IN NINETEENTH CENTURY ARKANSAS

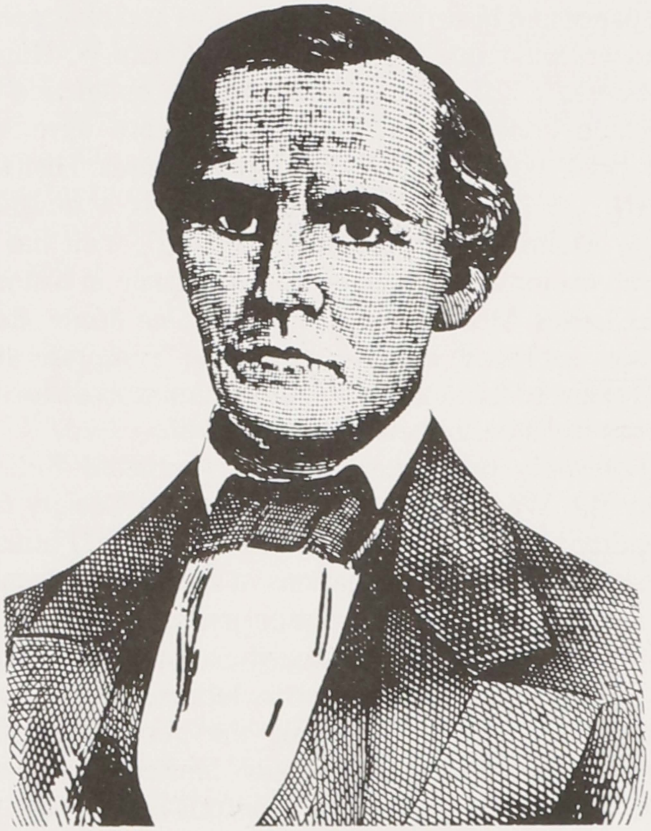
by Lawrence Gene Santeford

Spread over many years, there have been a number of newspaper and historical journal articles and biographical sketches written about Archibald Yell. William W. Hughes' book, *Archibald Yell*, is perhaps the most thorough and best documented book on the man. While there have been various brief notes on Yell in the Arkansas Historical Quarterly, the best work in that journal is a multi-part report by Melinda Meek published in 1967. Yell has not even been exempt from making an appearance in historical fiction. Charles Morrow Wilson wrote, *One Man's Reach* which was published in 1944 by a New York publishing firm. A review of its contents revealed numerous distortions and errors in its basic facts about Yell's life.

Following the removal of the Archibald Yell law office by the Washington County Historical Society from the property along South College in Fayetteville, I initiated limited archeological investigations at the former location of the structure. To have a better understanding of the people whose trash an archaeologist excavates, it is necessary to look through legal records, letters, and whatever resources are available describing the people and their activities. Oftentimes there is only limited information available on the early occupants. And this is generally true for the Yell family, but it has still been possible to draw together bits of information from older issues of *Flashback*, newspaper accounts, tax and property records, and other sources to go beyond Archibald Yell's political career to

glimpse his personal life. Despite the affluence of the Yell family, its members dealt with many of the same inconveniences, problems, and traumas that other Arkansas families had to deal with on the frontier.

Yet one will quickly note that Yell did not present the characteristics of a typical citizen of Arkansas when the legal records and diversity of his activities are examined. He was a major land holder with more than one house in



Archibald Yell

Washington County and a total land ownership extending considerably beyond the boundaries of the state. However, he spent relatively little time in Fayetteville, travelling first as a circuit judge, and then living in Washington D. C. as a congressman, followed by time in Little Rock as governor; then back to the nation's capitol; and finally as a military officer in Mexico. As a result he was hardly at home with his children, even following the deaths of his wives. They often lived with relatives and attended boarding schools. Yell was capable of establishing excellent rapport with the "common people," but he was also a business and political opportunist.

As Meek indicated in her article, Yell sought a political appointment in Arkansas because his career had dimmed in Tennessee after a controversy. He used his contacts in Arkansas and Washington, D. C. in various business ventures. For example, he was speculating in lots in Fort Smith and persuaded the Secretary of War to agree it was an excellent location to build a new garrison arguing that a threat existed from the Indian populations to the west. Yell was also involved in land speculation with President James Polk along the Red River. And, together with David Walker and William Haile, Yell became a proprietor of town lots in Ozark during 1836. They indicated that it was the most productive cotton land in west Arkansas, with a location commanding the trade of Washington, Carroll, Crawford, and Jefferson counties.

His life and political career were marked by numerous controversies. While serving in the military during the Mexican War, Yell encountered problems that almost led to his court-martial. At that same time he was also requesting that his friend, President James Polk, get him an appointment in California following the war. Yell was ready to move on again.

Archibald Yell came to Fayetteville about November

1834 without his family. This was approximately two years before Arkansas became a state. He had been appointed by President Andrew Jackson to begin a term as federal district judge in the Territorial Supreme Court on March 3, 1835. The *Arkansas Gazette* of February 24, 1835 stated that he was to replace Thomas P. Eskridge whose commission expired. Yell was a judge for the Third Circuit, covering Washington, Carroll, Izard, Independence, Lawrence, Greene, Randolph, and St. Francis counties. Fayetteville was a newly established town serving as county seat and territorial center of the territory.

Most travellers into the State came by way of central Arkansas. The convenience of travel during this period depended largely on the seasonal condition of the Arkansas River. If the water level was high enough, Yell could have taken a steamboat up the Arkansas River from Montgomery's Point, one of the oldest and most widely known landings on the Mississippi River on the north side of the White River where it emptied into the Mississippi, all the way across the state to Van Buren and Fort Smith. Settlements along the Arkansas River during 1835-36, and earlier, included Little Rock, Lewisburg (the rivertown replaced by Morrilton), Dardanelle and Van Buren among others. During part of the year, the water was too low requiring travellers to go overland by horseback or light wagon. An 1835 map of Arkansas on file with the Arkansas History Commission shows a trail along the north side of the Arkansas River.

An article in the *Pulaski County Historical Society Review* (1964) taken from W. F. Pope's *Early Days in Arkansas* describes a trip by foot from Montgomery Point to Little Rock during October 1832. The travellers stopped at farms along the way each night during the 125 mile journey, sometimes having suppers of boiled beef, bacon swimming in grease, cold turnips and collards, corn bread,

and coffee sweetened with molasses. If travellers continued on this trail, they started to go north at Van Buren and went through the settlements of Pleasant Hill, Vineyard, and Cane Hill, before arriving at Fayetteville. From the latter settlement, it continued east to Talbot's Post Office on the White River. Yell undoubtedly called upon numerous citizens to provide food and lodging as he made his way to Fayetteville.

During his initial trip to Fayetteville, Yell bought 80 acres of land. This land, which became known as Waxhaws and is now part of Fayetteville's Walker Park, was purchased from James Weems on November 28, 1834. The General Land Office survey was conducted in this area during 1831, so it was only a few years before his purchase that surveyors walked a section line a short distance east of the house. As they surveyed north on the east boundary of section 21, they stated: "Land first 20.50 chains down mountain and very poor. Timber post oak, etc. undergrowth oak, whortleberry, etc. not fit for cultivation, balance land 2nd rate prairie fir for cultivation." Shortly after passing this point (46.00 chains), they left the prairie and entered a point of timber" bearing northwest and northeast. A road was already present bearing South 60 degrees and North 60 degrees. Near the corner of the section they entered the prairie again. At the corner they summarized as follows: "Land mostly ascending, poor, black jack ridge, prairie woods, also known as oak barrens, were basically grass covered with interspersed trees and brush. Outside of the stand of timber in the north part of Yell's land, the remainder was probably relatively open woods except for immediately along the creek where vegetation would have been thicker.

It is possible to get some idea of the quality of his homestead by reviewing the soils recorded during modern surveys. By the mid-1840s Yell owned approximately 180

acres in the Waxhaws area alone. His land extended west (to include what would become the National Cemetery), and ended about where Paris Avenue is located just east of Razorback Road. The north boundary was about where West 7th Street is located, and the land extended south to Cato Springs Road (State Highway 265). The east boundary was South College. The section of U.S. Highway 71B, identified on street signs as Archibald Yell Boulevard, runs northeast and southwest through what had been the middle of his property.

His house was erected on Leaf silt loam soil. The soil is moderately well suited to row crops and small grains, but it is not noted as productive for the growing of corn or oats. Some of the better agricultural land on Yell's property included Savannah fine sandy loam, Sloan silt and Johnsburg silt loam. These soils are found along Town Branch running through the property, as well as large areas west of the house. Some of his best agricultural land was in the area where U.S. Highway 71B and State Highway 16 cross, around the present Southgate Shopping Center, and between Walker Park North and Dunn Avenue.

Sometime during 1835, Archibald returned to Fayetteville in Lincoln County, Tennessee, to move his family and slaves to Arkansas. An article in the *Arkansas Gazette* of April 21 indicates that the steamboat *Neosho* had brought 50 cabin passengers up the Arkansas River. This was a light draught boat under the command of Captain P. Pennywit, a well-known steamboat officer of the period. The water level had dropped by that time of the year, since the *Compromise*, another steamboat, coming from New Orleans had made it only as far as Pine Bluff and the passengers had to transfer to the *Neosho*. Among the passengers on the latter boat were the Honorable A. Yell and his family.

The family is reported to have resided in a log house

on Rock Street when they arrived. About 1836 or 1837, Archibald Yell purchased all of Block 41 and Block 42, Lot 1. Block Street runs along the west side of Block 41; Rock along its north side; South Street along the south; and East Street along the east. Block 42 is immediately east of Lot 41. College avenue is along the east boundary.

A *Flashback* article of 1952 reports that John Lewis was on Block 42 in 1836, and Dr. Sanders was on Block 41. Other records of lot ownership do not identify these men as owners of lots in these blocks, but they could have been occupying them before official sales began. Yell may have moved into a structure owned by one of these men or it may have been erected by someone else and made available for his temporary use. He subsequently purchased Block 31, Lot 6, just northwest of Block 41, since he donated that lot for the Masonic Lodge ca. 1838. About 1836, James Boone had purchased that lot for $10.00 (*Northwest Arkansas Times Sesqui-Centennial Edition*, 1978).

The Yell family residing in this house consisted of Archibald; Ann Jordan ("Nancy"), his wife; and four children. The latter had all been born in Tennessee, and included: Jane Rochester, 9 years; DeWitt Clinton, 3 years; Elizabeth Rochester, 2 years; and Artemesia, 1 year or younger. Nancy died on October 7, 1835 while the family was apparently still residing in the old log house. She was 32 years old. The *Arkansas Gazette* of October 20, indicated she died after an illness of about two weeks duration, and she had been a member of the Presbyterian church. Nancy was buried on the Waxhaws property where Archibald was having the family home built.

No maps of 1830s Fayetteville exist, but written reports and oral tradition indicate where a few buildings or businesses were located. Alfred Wallace and the McGarrahs operated general stores. The courthouse was a log structure approximately 20′ x 20′ built in 1829. It stood on Block

Street somewhere in the vicinity of Campbell and Bell. This structure was not replaced until 1837, so Yell held his first court sessions here. An article written by Albert Pike in 1836 indicated this was the normal environment for court proceedings in the State. One can visualize citizens of Fayetteville, including the Yell family, walking from their homes scattered on lots around the square along crude roads, dusty in dry weather and thick with mud during times of rain.

The *Arkansas Gazette* of June 23, 1835 contains a note stating that "letters from Fayetteville" applauded Yell's courtroom manner. On June 10, the Circuit Court was in session in Fayetteville with the Honorable Judge Yell presiding. It was noted that: "No man could surely have been appointed who would meet with more general approbation here. All seemed pleased with his mode of conducting the court, and equally so with his decisions. As the vulgar saying is, "he makes them all stand up to their fodder." Yell was not necessarily lenient in the courtroom. He sentenced one man to stand in the pillory on the square in Fayetteville for one hour followed by three months in jail. Meek observed in her article that the court records show that Yell showed no mercy in sentencing the many gamblers that appeared in his court. It is unknown what the early jail was like, since Yell was not commissioned to have a jail built according to specifications until 1839.

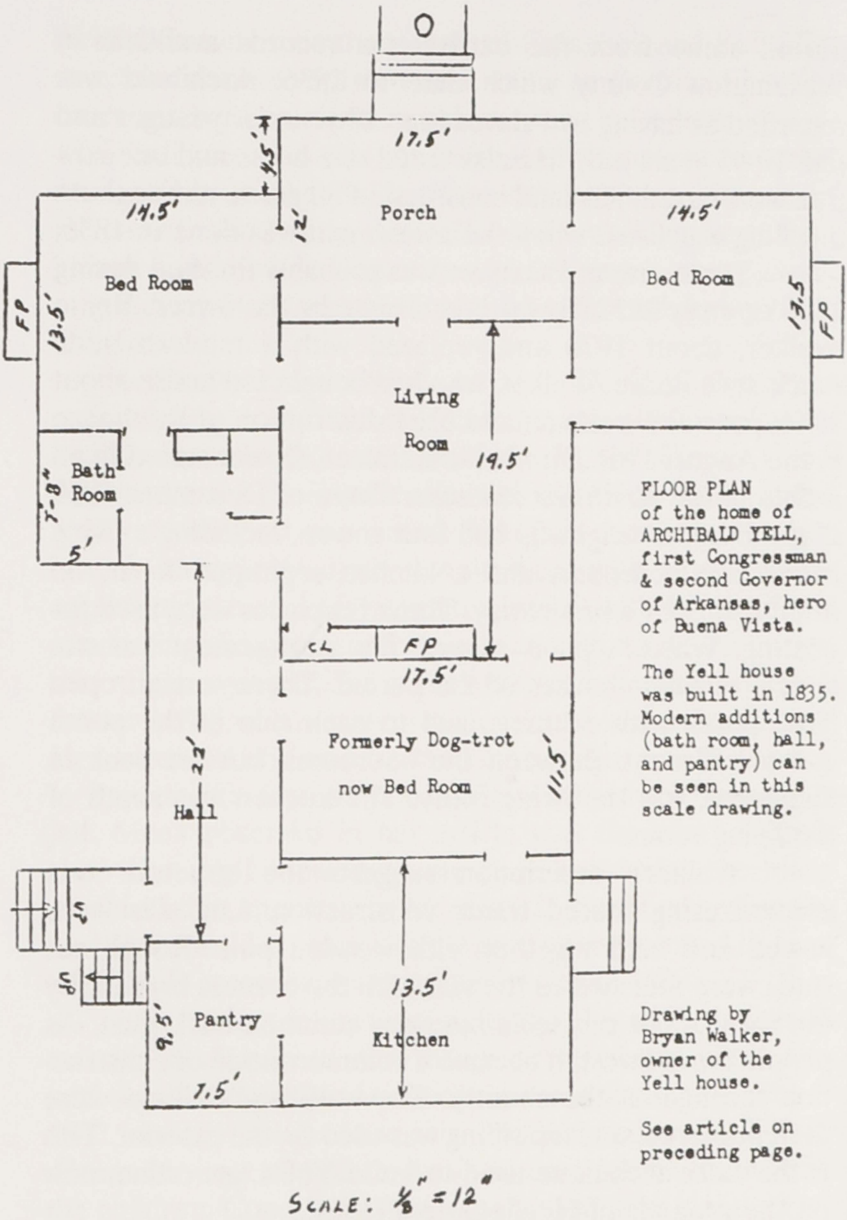
Sometime following the death of his wife, Archibald moved his family to the house at Waxhaws. This was probably during 1836. An article in the *Arkansas Gazette* of 1943 stated that he had his brother and sister-in-law, Alexander and Martha, move in to care for the farms and the children. Considering the size of his judicial circuit, Yell spent a considerable time away from Fayetteville at the Izard County, Davidsonville and Batesville court houses. The only accurate insights on Yell's private life during this

period come from the earliest tax records available in Washington County which date to 1836. Archibald was recorded as having two slaves (one 10 years or younger and one 10-45 years old). He also listed one horse and one cow that were taxed. His land consisted of 80 acres, although no dwelling was listed when the assessment was done in 1836.

The house at Waxhaws was probably finished during 1836 or early 1837. It was demolished by the owner, Bryan Walker, about 1970 and replaced with a modern brick ranch-style house. Walker, who had bought the house about 1944, provided a sketch and brief description of the house in the August 1961 *Flashback*. Kathleen Dozier stated in an article in the *Northwest Arkansas Times* of December 1950 that the house originally had four rooms, including a living room, two bedrooms and a kitchen separated from the other rooms by a breezeway. Three fireplaces were used for heating. Walker's plans suggest the arrangement was not typical of other houses of the period. There was an open front porch with columns, and to each side of the porch was a bedroom. Between the bedrooms, but set back in alignment, was the living room. The kitchen was south of the living room.

Walker's description suggests the structure was erected using braced frame construction. Log sills were hewed and held together with wooden pins. Rough cut studs were attached to the sills with the corners braced. By the early 1800s this technique was common back East. As people moved west, it became a common mode of construction throughout the country. The walls and ceilings were then plastered, and lap siding was used on the exterior. This is the same technique used to build Yell's law office, now on the grounds of Headquarters House.

On July 7, 1836, nine months after Nancy's death, Archibald married Maria Ficklin in Pocahontas, Arkansas. Yell was the Circuit Judge of the court held at the home



Floor Plan of Waxhaws drawn by Bryan Walker
From *Flashback*, August 1961

of James G. Russell, about 8 miles north of Pocahontas. He apparently met Maria during the time he presided over the court in Randolph County. Maria Ficklin was the widow of Judge T. Ficklin who had been a senator from Lawrence County to the territorial legislature in 1833. Land Patents of Washington County indicate Maria Ficklin became a landowner herself, purchasing 80 acres of land during August of 1836 immediately west of Waxhaws in Section 21, Township 16 North, Range 30 West.

On December 12, 1836, Archibald Yell took his seat as the first Congressman from Arkansas. He had run as a Democratic candidate. Evidence suggests that Archibald and Maria did not return to Fayetteville at all or very often. The transportation of the period was probably a major factor in this. A letter of 1840 printed in the *Pulaski County Historical Society Review* (1958), described the route of travel from Little Rock to Washington. Travellers went by steamboat from Little Rock to New Orleans and then by boat up the Alabama River to Montgomery where they took stages to Greensboro in Georgia where the railroad lines began. Then from Charleston (South Carolina) they went by sea up the Cape Fear River to Wilmington (North Carolina), and by railroad again through Petersburg and Richmond to Frederickburg. From there travellers took stages once more to get to Washington.

The children remained at Waxhaws and were cared for by Martha. Alexander managed the farms and the slaves. Apparently Archibald valued education for his children since he stipulated in his will that his house and property in Little Rock, as well as his other holdings, were to be sold in the event of his death providing money to educate his children. During this period only subscription schools existed in the state. Publicly financed education was not initiated in Arkansas until the 1870s.

The *Arkansas Gazette* article of 1943 indicates that

in a letter of 1841, Yell stated that Mrs. Dickson served as a teacher for the children at his home in Fayetteville. When the girls became older, they attended Danville Female Institute in Kentucky, a boarding school. He also wanted to insure that the children were provided a base for being financially independent. Each of them was to be given a farm or land at his death, Jane receiving Waxhaws.

It wasn't until July 1838 that the Yells returned to Fayetteville for a visit to last several months. Archibald had no plans to run for re-election to Congress. It was while they were in Fayetteville that Maria died on September 25, 1838, at the age of 36 years. She was buried at Waxhaws. Archibald never remarried.

The census of 1840 showed the composition of his household. It included Archibald and his four children, 7 male slaves and three female slaves. Ten members of the household were listed as employed in agriculture, while one person was involved in manufacture or trade. Evidence suggest this person could have been a slave engaged either in making whiskey from the corn crop raised on Yell's extensive landholdings or a carpenter. In his will of 1841, he bequeathed his stills to his brother, suggesting that he was producing whiskey.

The presence of a carpenter is more speculative, but is based on an article in the Fayetteville newspaper in 1941 by Lessie Reed. She states that Yell made the furnishings for his own home "...with his own hands." It is more likely that when Yell came to Arkansas, he brought along a slave who was a skilled carpenter. This slave may have been responsible for building the house and outbuildings using the braced frame technique as well as constructing furniture. Yell could probably charge people in the area for the products of a skilled carpenter.

Archibald did not remain out of political office for long. In 1840 he ran for governor of Arkansas. He moved

into a one-story frame house on one-and-a-half lots that he owned at the northeast corner of Cherry (Second) and Louisiana Streets in Little Rock. The house faced Louisiana Street. Nothing appears to have been published about his time in Little Rock, although E. L. Hebb in an *Arkansas Gazette* article of 1939 indicated that Yell was active in the Christ Episcopal church there. When Archibald left for Little Rock, his holdings in Washington County included 800 acres of land, three town lots in Fayetteville, eight slaves and eight neat cattle.

By 1845, he had increased his land holdings to 860 acres, but decreased his town lots to one. He was also taxed for eight slaves, one pleasure carriage, five horses and three cattle. These numbers remained constant through 1846, although he increased his cattle to ten.

Archibald's will, written in July of 1841 and filed at Bedford County, Tennessee, provides some insights into his holdings at that time. This will was published in a 1955 issue of *Flashback*. He had eleven slaves and extensive property holdings in Desha, Jefferson and Washington Counties. In the latter county, he had his house and property at Waxhaws, about 400 acres at the Eutaw Farm in the prairie west of Fayetteville and the Mill Farm. In addition he had lots in Ozark and Fort Smith and a house and lot in Little Rock.

It is of interest that in 1841, Archibald's brother, Alexander, was living at the Mill Farm but the will indicated that his brother would inherit all of Archibald's "stills and apparatuses and free use of the place fir three years &c." Alexander and his wife apparently moved into the house at Waxhaws, since an obituary indicates she died there on April 25, 1849 and was buried in the family cemetery there.

Yell served as governor until he resigned in 1844 to run for Congress against Judge David Walker of Fayette-

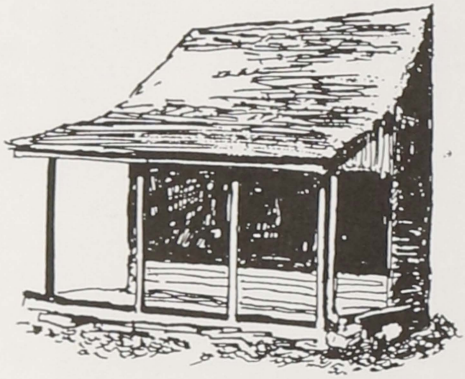
ville. Yell won, and returned to Washington. It is presently unknown where he lived while in Washington. When the Mexican War was declared, Yell left his seat in Congress without resigning.

Archibald Yell was killed at the Battle of Buena Vista on February 23, 1847. According to *The State Democrat* of May 6, 1847, he was buried at Saltillo in a tin coffin placed in a wooden one. By July of that year, his body was brought to Little Rock on the steamboat *Hatchee Planter*. After a ceremony at the State House, his coffin was placed on the same boat to be sent up the Arkansas River and transported overland to Waxhaws for burial (*The State Democrat*, July 23, 1847). The route followed in taking Archibald Yell for burial to Fayetteville was probably the same one he followed just thirteen years earlier when he rode north to assume his appointment as Circuit Judge. The family burials were moved to Evergreen Cemetery on November 2, 1872, where the Yell monument is still extant.

Even while in Mexico, Yell was planning his political future. He wrote to President James Polk requesting that he be given an appointment to the California Territory. It was a mover that would have given him the chance to have become the first governor of California when statehood was granted. It is interesting to speculate on what Yell would have achieved if he had survived the war and received that appointment. California applied for admission as a free state in 1849. This application touched off one of the longest and most bitter debates in Congress. The danger of disunion was great. Southerners threatened secession if slavery was excluded in land acquired from Mexico as proposed by Northern state legislatures. Considering his ownership of slaves and his Southern heritage, Archibald Yell would have been placed in an extremely uncomfortable position as governor of California.

Colonel William Moore became the guardian of

Yell's children following Archibald's death. DeWitt Clinton spent some time with his aunt and uncle Moore in Lincoln County, Tennessee. Then he joined his sisters at *Westmoreland*, the home of their paternal grandfather near Danville, Kentucky. In time, he studied law at Cumberland College in Tennessee. During the 1850s, DeWitt practiced law out of his father's law office at Waxhaws dying on May 15, 1861 at the age of thirty. Accounts suggest that he was the only child to return and make a home at Fayetteville. Artemesia died at the Moore home in Tennessee at the age of seventeen (1853). The other daughters married and had large families. Jane (Hebb) died in Alabama (1905) and Elizabeth (Smith) died in Tennessee (1916).



Historical Society Plans Yell Law Office Dedication

For Sunday, May 8th, 1993 the Washington County Historical Society is planning the formal dedication of the Archibald Yell Law Office. The ceremony, on the grounds of Headquarters House, will be at 2:30 PM. Please call the Historical Society at 521-2970 for more details.

Waxhaws Monument

by James E. Gibson

photo by James E. Gibson

On the southeast corner of South College Avenue and 7th Street in Fayetteville, stands an old monument about 32 inches square, seven to eight feet high, built of old style concrete blocks and bearing a pyramidal cast concrete capstone. I first discovered this monument about 1937-38, while a student at the University of Arkansas. And until a few months ago I had thought it was a gatepost, or possibly a corner of the Archibald Yell Property.

At a meeting of the General Lafayette Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, a member brought up the sad condition of the Archibald Yell monument. This was my first knowledge that old "gatepost" was a monument to anything or anybody. Further discussion revealed that the group might wish to refurbish the monument, but no one knew when it was erected, or by whom.

Being interested in local history, this caught my attention. Leading me to volunteer to try to find more information about the monument.

Many unproductive phone calls later, the Washington County Historical Society came up with a report that our "gatepost" was erected in 1928 by the U.S.W.V., information they had gleaned from *The Governors of Arkansas*, by Donovan and Gatewood.

So far, so good. Now, what did U.S.W.V. stand for? Again, no one seemed to know. Mrs. Bryan Walker, former occupant of Waxhaws, the old Yell home, told me the monument had originally faced south, towards the house. That was the reason I had never seen the inscription.

Mrs. Walker said that when City of Fayetteville crews installed a sidewalk along South College Avenue, they were asked to turn the old monument around to face the street and repair it. This was done, but she did not know what the initials stood for, either.

Finally a conversation with Mrs. Kay Browne produced a useful suggestion. She said, "Check with the Masons. Archibald Yell was a member of the lodge." This led to Mr. Bob Oswald, Worshipful Master of Washington Lodge No. 1. He provided the following: U.S.W.V. is the United States Spanish War Veterans. Their address is P.O. Box 1915, Washington, DC 20013. Telephone (202) 347-1898. Bingo!

A call to that number was answered by a Mrs. Cope, Secretary, who did not know of our monument, but asked

if it was a "hiker," a statue of a walking soldier. She said the U.S.W.V. had erected many of these. She was much interested, though, and looking through her records, found that the William Warren Key Camp No. 9 was located in Fayetteville. The camp was organized in October 1927 and existed until 1940 when it was disbanded by a letter from N.S. Thorton, of Camden, Arkansas, saying that the Camp "wouldn't do anything."

Mrs. Cope found a roster of the camp, and it is reproduced here. No date was given.

Lawrence Wright, Commander
Tom Moran, Vice-Commander
Jim Fishback, Adjutant
Robert Gholson
H.C. Oliver
J.R. Hill
Jess Walters
Robert Boydston
C. K. McFarland
P. J. Ellis
R. S. Robinson
M. V. Cox

Thus, a little of the history of the "Yell Monument." The inscription reads:

1833
WAXHAWS
HOME OF
ARCHIBALD YELL
GOVERNOR CONGRESSMAN SOLDIER
KILLED AT BUENA VISTA
1847

They might have added Circuit Judge and Loyal Mason to the above, for Yell was both in Fayetteville. He was Judge from 1833-1837, he was signer of the petition to the Grand Chapter of Tennessee to grant a chapter of the Royal Arch Masons in Fayetteville. When their petition was accepted, Yell became the first King of Far West Chapter No. 1, Fayetteville, Arkansas, serving with Onesimus Evans, High Priest, and Thomas J. Pollard, Scribe.

We cannot totally agree with Mr. Thorton's letter saying the W.W. Key Camp No. 9, "wouldn't do anything." They did raise a monument to one of Fayetteville's most famous early citizens.

Unfortunately, Colonel Yell's house, Waxhaws, was demolished many years ago to make way for new construction, and survives only in photographs. His law office, which stood behind Waxhaws, has been preserved and now stands on the grounds of the Washington County Historical Society at 118 East Dickson Street. It has been carefully reconstructed and now houses a small museum.

While we have not been completely successful in preserving all of the memorabilia of Colonel Archibald Yell, we still have some. It would be regrettable indeed if we allowed the U.S.W.V. monument to disappear for lack of maintenance.

The General Lafayette Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution is interested in protecting, preserving and enhancing the monument and surrounding small area. If you can help, or to supply more information about this potential tourist attraction, please contact:

James E. Gibson
c/o Washington County Historical Society
118 E. Dickson St.
Fayetteville, Ar 72701

or

Milo J. Cumpston
1949 Bois D'Arc
Fayetteville, Ar 72703

The Experiences of the T.A. Reynolds Family During the Civil War

by Forrest Dutton Poorman

What path does a man take in a civil war when he is 37 years old, married with five children, having served as an officer in the Mexican War of 1846-47 and had lived in the Cane Hill area for the last ten years? His father-in-law, Tandy Kidd, and neighbors had slaves. Yet he had none and harbored strong feeling against fighting so others could keep theirs. Thus Thomas A. Reynolds elected to be loyal to the Union cause.

According to the Act of Congress of March 3, 1871, those citizens loyal to the Union could apply for compensation for any damage and loss they had suffered during the Civil War. To that end in 1873, Thomas Reynolds began securing depositions describing names, places, events and losses that occurred during the war years. These also attempted to establish the fact that Thomas was and had remained loyal to the Union. It is possible this requirement might have had some influence on the various testimonies. However, the depositions by T.A. Reynolds, his wife, Ophelia Ann, his employee, Elizah Bell, employee's wife, Sarah, employee's daughter, Mary Bell, and David Maberry were not sufficient to establish loyalty. In 1877 he submitted additional depositions from Adam J. Reed, Bryant Wallace and William G. Aikens.

Thomas testified that before 1862 he had been against the secession of Arkansas and had used his influence when he could. He voted against secession and refused

to join the Confederate army. This political stand caused him to be arrested by Col. Shelby's men and held under guard for 3-4 days. When Federals appeared in Boonsboro, the Rebels left and Thomas was freed. He stated that he was abused at other times and was told to either join the Rebs, leave the country or be killed.

Bryant Wallace was a 62 year old friend. Although their friendship was casual, he had been in the Reynold's home often. He reported only one war talk with T.A. That took place in the fall, after the August 1861 Wilson Creek battle. During the discussion, Reynolds said, "He had no niggers to be fighting or fussing over. All he had was his place and stock to save. He reckoned the nigger was what they were fighting over and he had no need to be out fighting to save other people's niggers."

In the Spring of 1862, Thomas moved with his wife and children to their 160 acre farm located 6½ miles northwest of boonsboro. The Reynold's farm had 60-80 acres under cultivation by their employee, Elizah Bell, and some hired help. Numerous references were made to the fine quality and quantity of products produced on the farm.

Besides the two-story house, the farm had a smoke house, stable, a second house and a barn. These structures were mentioned in the various depositions. Mrs. Reynolds managed the farm, with the help of Mr. and Mrs. Bell and their daughter, Mary. The three women and the Reynold's children--Jerome, 9; Eugene, 7; Nancy, 4; Thomas, 3; and Johanna, 2-- remained on the farm for some time. A daughter, Lucella, was born in 1864.

Thomas stayed in Boonsboro to take care of his confectionery establishment and he also clerked in his father-in-law's (Tandy Kidd) store until December 1861. When General Blunt brought his Army of the Frontier to Rhea's Mill in November, 1862, Thomas made many trips to the various camps, often staying several days at a time.

It is indicated he helped the Unionists with the geography of the area only.

In his deposition, Thomas reported, "A good deal of confectionery and picture stock was taken and destroyed by the Rebels, some $400-500 worth. I never got a cent for anything taken from me by the Rebels." He had the reputation of being a fine daguerreian artist.

He indicated he did have a brother-in-law, Mortimer Kidd, in the Confederate army. However, he swore that he never talked to him nor ever helped him in any way.

General Blunt had issued property protection papers for Thomas and for the Kidd Estate. Thomas admitted he made copies of the Kidd papers and distributed them to the persons in charge of the widely scattered pieces of property contained in the Estate. For this, General Blunt had him arrested. Thomas went to the General and explained his motive was to see that all concerned employees would have a copy. The General reproved him and he was freed. This gave some indication that Tandy Kidd, although a slave owner, was a Union sympathizer.

Adam J. Reed related an incident when two rebels, Gatewood and Parks, came to the Kidd Store where Reynolds was employed. They wanted to buy a harness with Confederate money. Reynolds told Kidd not to take the Confederate money for "it was not worth a damn." The harness was not sold and a fuss grew out of it. The harness was finally taken by force and Reed believed that Kidd's refusal to take the Confederate money was the cause of Kidd's death later at the hands of Perry Parks.

In his deposition, David Maberry said it was common knowledge that the claimant's father-in-law, Tandy Kidd, was branded as a Union man and threatened with the rope. He added the claimant was but a step behind his father-in-law though there wasn't as much said about him.

Ophelia Reynolds experienced one of the first

incidents involving the Union Army's activities. She had been riding her mare, when she returned home, removed the saddle and sent the horse to pasture with their other colt. About sundown, a group of Indian Scouts of Col. Phillip's Cherokees rode into the yard. She and Mrs. Sarah Bell ran out and could only watch as the Indians rounded up the two horses, led them to the barn, fed them and rode off. The Reynolds never saw their horses again. Ophelia reported the Indians were all painted and looked very frightful to her. She could not sleep well after that. She rented the farm to Elizah Bell and moved to Boonsboro to live with her widowed stepmother, Nancy E. Kidd.

Later she went to Rhea's Mill, where the Union army had made camp since November, 1862, and lodged a complaint with General Blunt. He gave her a receipt for some hay and corn, but she never cashed it and later could not recall why not. It and all her other papers were lost when the Kidd home was burned by Jennison's men in 1864.

Soon after the November arrival of Blunt's army at Rhea's Mill, just 1½ miles east of the Reynold's farm, foraging parties began stripping all the local farms of their food stocks.

Thomas Reynolds admitted he had never done any farm work. Consequently he could not judge the quantity nor quality of his farm's produce and had to rely on his employee, Elizah Bell, to accurately report their losses.

Mr. Bell supported the Union cause and therefore had some threatening enemies. After a year of farming for Thomas, he made the decision to go to Texas for his own safety. His depositions were very descriptive about the foraging activities of the Federal army. Four government wagons arrived at the Reynolds' farm soon after the Union army made camp and were loaded with shucked corn. The next time they came with six or eight wagons and each time

they took shucked corn. He estimated over three hundred bushels were taken, using his own wagon capacity as a measure. The hay was stored in a house and it was taken along with some of the first loads of corn. He said the hay filled a six-mule wagon.

Elizah was positive the soldiers took one thousand bundles of fodder. "An Ohio regiment got that. They came to me like gentlemen. I went and helped them load it. There were two stacks of five hundred bundles each." Their officer asked Elizah to save the corn for him, that he would be back with a receipt for both the fodder and the corn. When Bell got back to the house, there was a train of four wagons from a Kansas regiment. They insisted on having the promised corn. When Elizah objected, the officer drew his sword and threatened to kill him if he didn't open the gate. After the four wagons were loaded, Elizah got up on a wagon, trying to see the officer and get a receipt. He was hauled off and the officer said they didn't give receipts to his sort. After that he never tried to stop any soldiers. They could just take what they wanted.

Many of the events were described as before or after "the Battle" meaning the December 7, 1862 Battle of Prairie Grove. It was before the battle that a Federal train arrived to take all the hogs on the farm. Nineteen head of pork hogs, being fed in a pen for Mr. Reynolds, were killed. They were at least two years old and ran from two to three hundred pounds when dressed. The soldiers also took or killed nineteen stock hogs that weighed between sixty and eighty pounds each. They killed the sow, leaving her to waste and took all her two-month old piglets. Mrs. Reynolds, Sarah and Elizabeth had to stand by and watch the slaughter and as live and dead hogs were hauled off in the forage wagons.

A few days after the battle, Col. Richardson's Missouri regiment camped sixty to seventy yards from the

Reynolds' house for almost a week. The soldiers discovered a barrel and a half of molasses in the smoke house. They ate most of nineteen young hogs and gorged themselves on the half barrel of molasses. They made themselves very sick. The full barrel and what was left of the other were loaded on the forage wagon and taken to Gen. Blunt's camp.

At the same time, they came for the wheat and took it to Rhea's Mill to be ground. Elizah's estimate was four sugar hogsheads full (each held twenty bushels). They poured the wheat loose into the wagons.

"The potatoes were taken by the 6th Kansas Calvary before the Battle. The men carried the potatoes off in their blankets, probably twenty bushels. The potatoes were hilled up in the garden and they took all of them."

When Mr. bell left the farm in the fall of 1863, he left a crop of twenty acres of #1 wheat, estimating a yield of twenty bushels an acre. He also left ten acres of corn, a exceptional stand, yielding about twenty-five bushels an acre. The Federals drove one of their wagons into the field and took all the corn. Mrs. Bell had taken one bushel of corn upstairs. That was all that was saved.

Wagon trains also came from Fayetteville, for Rhea's Mill was on the road to that town and some came from Fort Gibson, Oklahoma.

Adam Reed had been a close friend of Thomas for over twenty-four years. He had joined Co. B, 1st Arkansas Cavalry and was stationed in Fayetteville. Early in 1862, because of his Union support, he had to "take to the mountains and went up to my mother's, twelve miles from here, where I remained until I went into the Federal Army in October, 1862."

Many of the men in Reed's post were old friends of Thomas Reynolds having been neighbors in Cane Hill. Reed suggested that if Reynolds needed additional verifica-

tion of his loyalty, he was sure Samuel K. Reed, John R. Reed, several of the Larrimores and Kings would be only too happy to testify.

Fearing for his life, for he had received such threats, Reynolds visited Reed one day in the Spring of 1863. His old friend and neighbor, Wesley King, joined Adam Reed in advising him not to go home, but to try to get employment on the post in Fayetteville. When he was not successful in that plan, he decided to go to Van Buren.

Some of Thomas' problems were solved when he obtained a clerking job with the Dixon-Callahan Store in Van Buren. This store was located across the street from the Federal Military Post. He made friends with William G. Aikens, a soldier in Co. G., 1st Arkansas Cavalry. In his deposition, Aikens vouched for Reynolds' loyalty to the Union. He said he saw him often at his job and as a civilian at the Military Post.

In May, 1864, Thomas was able to get a Federal train to move his family to Van Buren and they stayed with him there until they felt it safe to return to Washington County.

The depositions obtained from former soldiers in 1877 were sufficient to satisfy the Commission of Claims that Thomas Reynolds had remained a loyal citizen of the Union and could submit his claims. His itemized losses were: 75 bushels of wheat $75.00, 300 bushels corn $150.00, 500 binds fodder $10.00, 1000 pounds hay $10.00, 30 gallons molasses $30.00, 4845 pounds pork $290.70, 1 bay mare eight years old $100.00, one young horse $50.00, ten bushels Irish potatoes $10.00, 425 bushels of wheat $425.00, 250 bushels of corn $250.00 and 400 pounds pork $24.00. Reynolds submitted a claim of losses amounting to $1,424.70. The Commission ruled some articles were overcharged and that others were placed on the list on account of pillage and depreciation. After these deductions,

Thomas Reynolds was awarded $560.00 by A.A. Aides, J.B.B. Howell and O. Ferries, Commission of Claims on December 5, 1877.

I am grateful to Fern Holms of Phoenix, Arizona for reading this account and for her valuable suggestions.

Forrest Dutton Poorman

News

The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program in Little Rock has announced their latest list of Arkansas properties nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. In Washington County that list includes the Old Springdale High School off Highway 71B near downtown Springdale. The two-and-one story, brick-and-stone school building, built in 1909-10, is listed as significant for being the best example in Springdale of the Romanesque Revival style of architecture.

The AHPP has also announced that Bean Cemetery in Lincoln, Twin Bridges in the Morrow area, the Old Bank of Fayetteville Building in Fayetteville and the Cane Hill Battlefield around Cane Hill have been accepted onto the National Register of Historic Places. The Society wishes to recognize to all those persons involved in each of these projects for the outstanding work they have done to bring these efforts to fruition and for caring enough about these historic locations to start the recognition process.

Remember When...

by Alfred C. Bridenthal

Ice Cream Cones were 5 cents and ice cream sodas were a dime?

You could drive to the Gateway at the Missouri state line and buy four major bands of gasoline for 12½¢ per gallon and cigarettes for 12½¢ per pack. Arkansas state tax was avoided and Missouri had no state tax.

The Castle Luncheonette opened next door to the Ozark Theater and sold hamburgers and hot dogs for 5¢.

Families had charge accounts at local grocery stores and ordered groceries by phone with delivery in a few hours. If no one was home, meat would be put in the ice box by the delivery man. The best part of all this was that when you paid the monthly bill, most grocers would give you a sack of candy.

Housewives were elated when grocery stores had super specials selling Miracle Whip Salad Dressing for 29¢ a quart.

If driving in the country at lunchtime, you could stop at a crossroads and buy a slab of "rat trap" cheese and a generous supply of bulk crackers for 15¢. To splurge, a tin of sardines was a dime and a cold drink was a nickel.

Waddy Elkins delivered ice from a mule-drawn wagon. Neighborhood kids would flock to the back of the wagon to get a small piece of ice. After a delivery was made the mules would automatically move to the next house with an ice card in the window.

Margarine was pure white when purchased, but each pound package included a capsule of dark-colored powder which could be mixed with softened margarine by the housewife to give it the color of butter. At that time, sale

of colored margarine was prohibited by Federal law due to legislation enacted through the efforts of the upper midwest dairy industry.

Tom's of Georgia introduced salted peanuts at 5¢ packaged in a waxed paper tube about six inches long.

Old King Tut candy bars cost a penny to a nickel depending on the price indicated on a slip inside the wrapper.

You could drive to the depot at train time and mail your letters in the mail slot on the coach labeled "Railway Post Office."

The local newspaper published daily except Sunday, cost fifty cents per month, and delivery was by carrier.

After church you could drive to Karsten's Bakery on East Street and buy just-out-of-the-oven pocketbook rolls to take home for your Sunday dinner.

Arkansas basketball games at Schmidt's barn were broadcast on the University's radio station.

Stores on Smokey Row, around the Square and side streets stayed open on Saturday nights until 9:00 PM. This provided shopping for many people who worked 5½ and 6 days a week, and for others to make last minute purchases since all the stores were closed on Sundays.

Our 29th President, Warren G. Harding, died in 1923. *The Fayetteville Democrat* put out an EXTRA edition about 6:30 or 7:00 o'clock in the morning and newsboys had a field day hawking the edition in the residential areas. (I remember this because someone woke my dad about 3:30 AM to assist in printing that special edition.)

Fayetteville was blanketed with a twelve to fifteen inch snowfall a few days before Easter.

One morning the temperature registered 30 degrees *below* zero according to the thermometer on Ownbey's Drug Store on the northeast corner of the Square.

After Dusk as orange glow appeared on the northern

horizon and extended upward 30 or 40 degrees. This lasted for an hour or so and many people feared Springdale was on fire. This was the Aurora Borealis, the Northern Lights, not usually seen as far south as Arkansas.

Many residents or previous residents of Fayetteville may remember only one or two of these items, but if you remember most of them you must now be on Medicare.

First Families of Tennessee

In honor of Tennessee's Bicentennial in 1996, the East Tennessee Historical Society is sponsoring a new heritage program titled "First Families of Tennessee." The purpose of the project is to identify and recognize all descendants of the first residents of the state of Tennessee. Anyone who is directly descended from a person living in Tennessee when the state was admitted to the Union in 1796, or before, is eligible for membership in this permanent remembrance of his family history and the Tennessee Bicentennial. Current Tennessee residence is not required.

Applicants who qualify and are admitted to membership in the First Families of Tennessee will receive a handsomely-designed certificate issued by the East Tennessee Historical Society featuring the applicant's ancestor. In addition, members of First Families of Tennessee will receive an invitation to an old fashioned family reunion for all members during the Bicentennial celebration in 1996.

The information furnished by applicants as proof of lineage will be placed in the McClung Historical Collection. There, as a resource for other researchers and genealogists, it will serve as a valuable addition to the history of Tennessee and a source of information and pride for future generations.

For more information on this exciting project, or for an application form, please contact the East Tennessee Historical Society, P.O. Box 1629, Knoxville, Tn 37901. Or call (615) 544-5732.

Letters

We received a record number of letters following our February issue of Flashback. *Wm. R. Rogers of Fayetteville, Arkansas had the following to say.*

The February, 1994 issue of *Flashback* brought back memories.

My family resided at 204 W. Dickson (in 1912). At the time, I was about five years of age when Dr. H. D. Wood told me that a new type of castor oil was available at the drug store at Dickson and West Streets in Fayetteville. My Dad always kept a good supply of that medication and I persuaded him to let me get the new type of strawberry oil. It was very beautiful in appearance, but was the most vile tasting (so I recall) of any medicine ever concocted. Our supply lasted a long while.

At about this same time I developed respect and admiration for policemen. I had been warned by Captain Cruse to refrain from riding my tricycle on the sidewalk in front of our house. One day my mother sent me down the street to the Star Grocery (the building still stands) for some potatoes. With my tricycle, I was attempting to transport a paper sack of potatoes up Dickson Street when the sack broke and scattered the contents. I looked up, very frightened, as the policeman approached. To my surprise, he calmed me, gathered up the potatoes and carried them home for me. He instantly earned my confidence and respect. To this day I smile, speak or wave to all police I see.

Robert L. Keen's article on the Keen family in West Washington County netted Mr. Keen a letter with the following information from Letha Grant Romane of Tulare California.

I have just read your article about the Keen family

in the February 1994 *Flashback*. I'm a double cousin to the Viola Grant that married John Thomas Keen. My father was Thomas Grant, a brother to Viola's father, Walter Grant and my mother was Vella Mathews Grant, a twin sister to Viola's mother, Stella Mathews Grant. So you see I enjoyed the article very much for I didn't know what had happened to John Thomas after Viola died....

We lived in Lincoln when my father died, 16 September, 1929. I remember when Viola and John married. My sister, Beulah, and I used to visit them. We moved to Kansas in the spring of 1930.

Mt sister, Beulah, married Harry Patterson of Cane Hill....Harry died in 1957 at Pratt, Kansas.

Paula Niman Keen, Robert L. Keen's wife, had the following to say of our reprint of Lloyd McConnell's "The Way it Was" column.

I really enjoyed the article, Robert (Bob) Weltick, was my step grandfather. I can remember his stories of playing for the team at Prairie Grove. Bob was an electrician for the University of Arkansas for about forty years and he worked hard, but for many years he umpired several nights a week for Little League. I know there were many times he had just enough time to change clothes, and grab a quick bite to eat before it was time to go umpire a game. He was given a plaque honoring him for his work in Little League, and it was one of his prized possessions.

Bob and his brother, Bernard, came to this area as young boys on the orphan train. They were from New York City and from a large family. When times got hard the family decided to give the two younger boys up for adoption to ease some of the burden on the family. They were adopted by two different families in the Prairie Grove area. In late years they were reunited with what was left of their real family in Nw York. Bob and is Bernard are both now

dead and buried in Prairie Grove.

Bob never had children of his own, he married Grandmother Mable Eades Niman, a widow in 1955. I lived with them much of my childhood years, and all of my teen years until I married. He took care of me just as if I were his own granddaughter, and when I had children, he was always their Grandpa Bob.

Mable Eades Niman and Bob Weltick
photo by Paula Niman Keen

By the way, his last name was spelled Weltick, the "k" was left off in the article.

We wish to apologize for that error and to note three others in our February issue. Our editor has always been rightfully accused of having terrible handwriting. In our last issue it came home to roost when it turned out he couldn't correctly read what he thought was three sets of reasonably good handwriting. To begin we wish to extend out apologies to Helen Barron Shupik for misreading her family name as "Nitong" when it should have been "Nifong." I understand, from the numerous phone calls we received after that issue came out that Mrs. Shupik was a former resident of this area.

Well, she can rest assured that her friends still remember her well and are looking out for her interests.

Another misreading we made came from John Nettleship's letter when we misread his friend's name, Hosea Lafayette "Dick" Williams, as Kosea Lafayette "Dick" Williams. We thought "Kosea" was a strange name, but we've seen some odd ones in all the genealogy articles we've run over the last few years. So we went with what we thought it looked like to us. Finally we wish to note that Vicki Rounsavall spells her last name thus, not Rounsvell as we listed it in the article on abandoned lands after the Civil War. We regret these and any other errors that still await discovery very much and hope this issue will be a little more forgiving.

We received an interesting letter from Mrs. George Messner of Atlanta, Georgia the other day. She writes in part:

I was born and reared in Fayetteville, and spent most of my growing-up years in the house of my Grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Byrnes, whose house was at the corner of Lafayette and Willow Streets, in the heart of the historic district --many of whose houses were designed and built by my Grandfather. He, also, erected over three hundred buildings in Fayetteville --many listed in the A. M. Byrnes biographical sketch in the *100 Years of Fayetteville.*

In the article in a recent issue of *Flashback* on the 1904 World's Fair, by Mrs. Bobbie G. Wilson, there was a mention and picture of the "Arkansas Building" where the Arkansas exhibits and headquarters were located. When Artemus Wolf purchased the building at the close of the fair, A. M. Byrnes was commissioned to move that beautiful building to Fayetteville, --which he did by numbering each piece of the wooden structure and erecting it exactly -- piece-by-piece-- on Mt. Nord as the building had stood in St. Louis. As a little girl I took dancing lessons there, as the spacious ballroom provided a perfect setting for teaching

and performing. It is a tragedy that because of the economic depression at the time the Arkansas Building could not be preserved on its imposing site overlooking the city of Fayetteville.

Mr. Byrnes also erected the monument in the Confederate Cemetery and the historically-preserved old City Jail with its castle-like design.

The Old Jail

Cherokee Trail Users Sought

After Seven years of research my wife, Pat, and I are presently working on the manuscript of our book on the Cherokee Trail to the California Gold Rush. The Oklahoma part of the trail had various names, among them the Fayetteville-to-California Road. The general description of the trail was northwest from the Grand Saline to McPherson, Kansas, where it met the Santa Fe Road.

This book will include the names of those goldseekers that took this trail to California starting in 1849. In 1859 the Oklahoma, Kansas and Colorado parts of this trail were used by goldseekers going to the Colorado Pikes Peak Gold Rush.

We now have over three hundred names of people from Arkansas and Oklahoma, including Cherokees, in our data base. For some of these people we have found such material as letters sent home, diaries, gold claims, census, etc. But for the majority only their names are mentioned in the newspaper as going with Evans in 1849; or with McNair, Beck, Oliver, Taylor, Mayes, Pierce, John Brown, etc. in 1850. We have documentation that the trail was used by people from Northwest Arkansas and Northeast Oklahoma, both white and Cherokee, to emigrate and to drive cattle to California as late as 1859.

We feel strongly now that the trail should be at last correctly plotted (after 144 years) and documented. The trail should be physically located, marked and documented as a significant contribution to the history of not only the California Gold Rush, but of our nation's westward movement.

We feel that the names of those pioneers --red, black (slaves), white, men and women-- that blazed or

trekked this trail to either California or Colorado should be included in this book which might be the last best chance for them to be included as a part of this trail. It is hoped that this trail will be made into a nationally recognized trail designated by the United States government and those agencies whose charge it is to protect and preserve our heritage. This is especially true for the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management over whose lands much of this trail traverses.

If any readers of *Flashback* know of or have relatives that trekked over this route and would like to make sure these people are in our upcoming book they should write us with us with as much of the following information as possible:

Complete Full Name: *If possible and not initials*
Family: *Parents, brothers, sisters, etc.*
Company and Year: *If known, ie. McNair, 1850*
Group Names: *Who he or she went with*
Where From: *Point of origin*
Destination: *ie. California, Colorado*
Returned: *Date and where to*
Transportation: *How returned*
Misc.: *Any other information of interest*

Please supply photocopies of documentation if possible along with your name, address and phone number (optional). Remember that it is very important that these heroic men and women be recorded in history for all time.

If anyone should have or know of any gold rush or cattle drive letters or diaries, published or unpublished, we would appreciate knowing of them. We are also presently looking for a copy of the diary of James Sawyer Crawford (1849, Evans party) last thought to be in the possession of Jim Lockerd of Magnum, Oklahoma. We are also seeking information on a James Pierce (Pearce) who went to

California with Evans/Pyeatt in 1849 and retired to Park City, Utah (last record 1902). We continue to seek information about Captain lewis Evans after 1850.

Please direct all correspondence to Dr. Jack E. Fletcher, 730 Three Crabs Road, Sequim, Wa 98382. Phone (206) 683-1958.

News

The Harrington Reunion will be held on June 4th at the Huntsville Community Center at Huntsville, Arkansas from 10 AM to 4 PM. Bring a covered dish and any family recipes you would like in a Harrington family cookbook.

The Gabbard Reunion will be held July 9th at the Huntsville Community Center at Huntsville, Arkansas from 10 AM to 4 PM. Bring a covered dish and any family recipes you might like in a Gabbard family cookbook.

Make plans to attend the classmates reunion the last Saturday in September at the Huntsville, Arkansas Community Center.

For more information on these reunions contact Virginia Threet, 1875 S. Custer Lane, Fayetteville, Ar 72701. (501) 521-6459.

Queries

I would appreciate any information concerning the participation of Stirman's Arkansas Sharpshooters at the Battle of Corinth, Mississippi on October 3 and 4, 1862.

I am also searching for information on the old Oak Cemetery, also known as Twin Oak Cemetery, located near the Fayetteville National Cemetery.

Please contact Vicki Rounsavall, 1949 Juneway Terrace, Fayetteville, Ar 72703.

Genealogy

Editor's Note: The following list of the names of local people who attended the 1904 World's Fair was not run with Mrs. Bobby G. Wilson's articles that appeared in the August and November 1993 issues of ***Flashback.*** *With this issue we shall run the list of people who visited the fair in May, June, July and August. With our next issue we will list those who attended the fair in September, October and November.*

The 'hit and miss' reading of checking microfilm used by this compiler no doubt missed a number of people who attended the St. Louis Fair, but a surprising number from our area were mentioned. For example:

Mrs. Lucien Lewis (son of Gus Lewis) of Fayetteville, and Miss Marie Hughes of Elm Springs, were married, and left on the Cannonball for a honeymoon at the World's Fair.

From the Johnson column: "Mulkeepmo journeyed with *The News* excursion to the St. Louis Fair (in July), and had a very pleasant trip. The five days at the great exposition will always be an oasis in the remembrance of those who viewed the wonders and the people of the splendid aggregation of places composing the great white city."

May

McCarthy, A.
McDaniel, Judge and Mrs. E.S.
Pool, Mr. and Mrs. C.W.
Prichard, Miss Cora
Prichard, Mr. and Mrs. E.C.
Wolf, A.F.

June

Chapman, Bess (dau. to Mrs. C.J. Chapman attending school in St. Louis)
Chapman, Marie (dau. to Mrs. C.J. Chapman)
Chapman, Mrs. C.J.
Christian, Dr. and Mrs. D.
Holcomb, Ida (mother to Joe Holcomb)
Holcomb, Joe
Ingersoll, Lena (Dau. to Mrs. F.C. Ritter)
Kelso, Mrs. W. H.

Mayes, Miss Viola
Miller, Mr. and Mrs. W.A. and daughter
Payne, Miss (of the *Fayetteville Daily*)
Ritter, Anna (Dau. to Mrs. F.C. Ritter)
Ritter, Mrs. F.C.
Ritter, Ruth (Dau. to Mrs. F.C. Ritter)
Simpson, Dona
Smyer, A.E.
Walton, Mr. and Mrs. James
Welch, Ed and family

July

Appleby, George
Baum, Leah (dau. of M. Baum)
Baum, M.
Beane, Mr. and Mrs. B.C.
Bevers, A.W.
Clark, Damon
Daily, Floy
Dukes, Frances
Harris, Tom
Haxton, Myrt
House, Rev. J.W. of Springdale
Hurst, C.
Ingram, Clyde
Jackson, Art (son of G.S. Jackson)
Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. G.S.
Johnson, Carol
Johnson, Zyphur
Joyce, Harvey (Son of J.A. Joyce)
Joyce, Mr. and Mrs. J.A.
Joyce, Roy (son of J.A. Joyce)
Keeney, Gussie and Marie
Mason, Marion of Johnson
Masoner, Edgar
McQuaid, Miss Edith
Mieir, Gus
Phillips, Guy
Prater, Mr. and Mrs. Alf
Pritchard, Virgil
Slaughter, Otto of Goshen
Smiley, Dr. and Mrs. of Robinson
Thompson, Earl (son to W.G. Thompson)
Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. W.G.
Umbaugh, Ada (won trip)
Umbaugh, Lola (won trip)
Umbaugh, Ollie (won trip)
Welch, Ed
White, Mrs. E.S.
Young, Daisy

August

Allen, Mrs. Gus of Prairie Grove
Armstrong, William
Baggett, J.J.
Baggett, Mr. J.T.
Baggett, J.J. and family
Baggett, Joe (son of J.J. Baggett)
Baker, Hugh
Bates, Earl
Bates, Ed (on furniture buying trip)
Bates, Prof. T.L.
Baum, Eli (son of Mrs. M. Baum)
Baum, Florence
Baum, Joe (son of Mrs. M. Baum)
Baum, Mrs. M. (to meet Mr. Baum on a buying trip)
Bell, Hettie (Annie King Chaperon)
Blackburn, Rowena of Cane Hill
Blanchard, Charlie
Blanchard, Fay

Boles, Edwin
Bozarth, J.L. family
Brown, Ethel (dau of Wayman Brown)
Brown, Lizzie (dau of Wayman Brown)
Brown, W.M. and daughter
Brown, Wayman
Bryan, Kit (Annie King Chaperon)
Campbell, Mary
Carother, Mr. and Mrs. Neil
Carother, Wallace (son of Neil Carother)
Conner, Mrs.
Conner, Ethel
Conner, T.J.
Conner, T.J. family
Connor, Bertha
Connor, Ethel
Considine, Mr. and Mrs. B.E.
Cunningham, Allie (to study latest dressmaking)
Curry, Carrie
Curry, Jennie
Curry, L.J.
Curry, Mae
Davies, Edith
Davies, Mary Lou
Davies, Sam
Davis, Frances
Dinsmore, Hon. H.A.
Droke, G.W.
Duncan, Mr. and Mrs. Ellia
Dyer, Miss Mattie of Prairie Grove
Eason, Alcuim
Eidson, G.P.
Ellis, Mrs. E.R.
Ellis, Roy (son of Mrs. E.R. Ellis)
Estes, Mr. and Mrs. V.L.
Evins, Phoebe (dau. of T.J. Evins)
Evins, T.J.
Fitzpatrick, Mrs. Mamie
Fort, Mary
Futrall, Prof. and Mrs. J.C.
Gallaher, Hugh
Galloway, Irene (dau. of Mrs. M.M. Galloway)
Galloway, Mrs. M.M.
Galloway, Rowena (dau. of Mrs. M.M. Galloway)
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Moore, B.F.
Moore, Nellie (dau. of B.F. Moore)
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Rogers, Mrs. George
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Rosser, J.F.
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Sengal, Jerome (to attend Kappa Sigma conclave)
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Spencer, Felix
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Wade, Mr. and Mrs. H.K.
Wade, Jessie (dau. of H.K. Wade)
Walker, Prof. Ernest
Walker, J.V.
Walker, Jack
Washington, Ruby (Annie King Chaperon)
Webb, Charlie (to attend Kappa Sigma conclave)
Williams, Beulah (dau. of Mrs. Jessie Williams)
Williams, Mrs. Jesse
Winkleman, R.
Wise, Clara
Witlow, Bernie
Wood, Fannie
Zimmerman, Mr. & Mrs. J.

Queries

Who were the parents of Franklin Shannon? He is shown on the 1840 census of Washington County, Arkansas. In 1850 he was in Crawford Country with his wife Nancy and five children. His daughter, Perniza (Shannon) Matlock, died 12 September, 1923 in Clarksville, Arkansas. Would like to correspond with anyone interested in this family. I'm interested in any Shannons. Tommie S. Taylor, 6565 S. 49th W. Ave, Tulsa, Ok 74131.

A Russell Family in Washington County Arkansas

by William L. Russell, Jr.

Dr. William James Park Russell and Ava Octavia D. Law were born in Georgia and came to Evansville, Arkansas in 1867 with stops in Corinth, Mississippi and Jonesboro, Illinois along the way during the Civil War. About 1872 the family moved to Boonsboro (now Cane Hill) where little is recorded about where Dr. Russell practiced medicine. Family Bible, census and property taxation records as well as marriage records do show a great deal of interaction with other families in the area as evidenced by the following genealogy.

William James Park Russell
b. July 17, 1830
Lawrenceville, Georgia
d. January 25, 1892
Wills Point, Texas

m. November 14, 1850
Gainesville, Georgia

Ava Octavia Dunn Law
b. October 22, 1832
Gainesville, Georgia
d. December 18, 1907
Stamps, Arkansas

Children of this Union

A. William James Russell
b. September 20, 1851
Gainesville, Georgia
d. June 2, 1853
Jonesboro, Illinois

B. Charles Ingram Russell
b. May 27, 1853
VanWert, Georgia
d. July 11, 1866
Shreveport, Louisiana

C. Mary Sophia Russell
b. May 18, 1855
Calhoun, Georgia
d. February 21, 1932
Conway, Arkansas

m. May 28, 1874
Boonsboro, Arkansas
John Denton Moore

1. James William Moore
b. April 12, 1875
Boonsboro, Arkansas
d. November 29, 1923
Claremore, Oklahoma

2. Alta Bethenia Moore
b. October 5, 1876
Boonsboro, Arkansas
d. September 27, 1958
Waggoner, Oklahoma

m. Claude Heber Weldon

3. Seaborn Park Moore
b. February 23, 1879
Boonsboro, Arkansas
d. November 21, 1895

4. Avarilla Octavia Moore
b. February 14, 1881
Boonsboro, Arkansas
d. June 19, 1912

m. Edwin Rice

5. Leona Ruth Moore
b. July 12, 1883
Boonsboro, Arkansas
d. September 18, 1954
Hot Springs, Arkansas

m. John William Dean
June 29, 1907

6. Mary Sophia Moore
b. November 26, 1886
Claremore, Oklahoma
d. September 9, 1954
Hot Springs, Arkansas

m. Charles Forrest Heasley
October 15, 1912

7. Nohunle Kate Moore
b. May 11, 1889
Claremore, Oklahoma
d. June 23, 1890
Claremore, Oklahoma

D. Law Viginnis Russell
b. May 5, 1857
VanWert, Georgia
d. September 21, 1883
Eureka Spgs, Arkansas

m. Sallie Braden
June 8, 1877
Crawford Co., Arkansas

1. Wm. James Russell, Jr.
b. April 2, 1878

E. Seaborn Rentz Russell
b. September 7, 1859
Canton, Georgia
d. March 1, 1928
Little Rock, Arkansas

m. Alcie Dee Bachelor
(1) January 1, 1880
Franklin Co., Arkansas

1. Clara Maude Russell
b. October 16, 1880
Boonsboro, Arkansas
d. February 3, 1969
Lubbock, Texas

m. G.W. Hancock
April 14, 1901
Franklin County, Arkansas

m. E. A. Morris
(to Seaborn Rentz Russell)
(2) July 18, 1906
Franklin Co., Arkansas

2. James Wilson Russell
b. January 18, 1882
Boonsboro, Arkansas
d. August 31, 1951
Cecil, Arkansas

m. Bealah Eubanks
August 13, 1913
Franklin County, Arkansas

3. Ada Ava Russell
b. October 5, 1883
Boonsboro, Arkansas
d. September 19, 1905

m. James A. O'Rear
May 11, 1902
Franklin County, Arkansas

4. Sophia Park Russell
b. March 27, 1885
Hope, Arkansas
d. 1980
Tulsa, Oklahoma

m. Wheeler Hoyle
May 5, 1909
Franklin County, Arkansas

5. Alcie Golda Russell
b. July 27, 1888
Wills Point, Texas
d. October 15, 1974
Fort Smith, Arkansas

6. Seaborn Bachelor Russell
b. September 30, 1890
Cecil, Arkansas
d. August 26, 1970
Little Rock, Arkansas

F. Ava Leona Russell
b. June 22, 1862
Corinth, Mississippi
d. February 12, 1935
Stamps, Arkansas

m. Ben F. Norwood
March 7, 1883
Boonsboro, Arkansas

1. Russell Norwood
b. March 1884
Mississippi

2. Benjamin J. Norwood
b. January, 1886
North Carolina

3. Ruby Leona Norwood
b. April 29, 1888
Wills Point, Texas

G. Sevie Octavia Russell
b. July 14, 1864
near Jonesboro, Illinois
d. March 18, 1942
Tahlequah, Oklahoma

m. William J. Troutt
July 21, 1881
Boonsboro, Arkansas

1. James M. Troutt
b. June, 1882
Boonsboro, Arkansas

2. Garrison D. Troutt
b. August, 1885
Boonsboro, Arkansas

3. Mary A. Troutt
b. September, 1887
Boonsboro, Arkansas

4. Russell Troutt
b. November, 1889
Boonsboro, Arkansas

5. Leona Troutt
b. February, 1893
Boonsboro, Arkansas

6. Irma Troutt
b. May, 1895
Boonsboro, Arkansas

7. Philiman H. Troutt
b. January 1898
Boonsboro, Arkansas

8. Belle E. Troutt
b. 1901
Boonsboro, Arkansas

H. Ralph Morgan Russell
b. July 1, 1867
Evansville, Arkansas
d. November 4, 1916
Birmingham, Alabama

m. Mary B. Law Woodcliff
1886
Gadsden, Alabama

1. Ralph Law Russell
b. Gadsden, Alabama

I. Lilly Russell
born dead, July 24, 1869
Evansville, Arkansas

J. Richard Dalton Russell
b. November 11, 1870
near Boonsboro, Ark.
d. October 27, 1928
Wills Point, Texas

m. George Anna Samford
April 20, 1893
Wills Point, Texas

1. Samford Russell
b. June 6, 1896
Wills point, Texas
d. May 28, 1918
Europe (KIA WW I)

2. Sevie Russell
b. August 5, 1989
Wills Point, Texas
d. September 1, 1920
Wills Point, Texas

3. William James Russell
b. May 21, 1903
Wills Point, Texas
d. March 5, 1947
Wills Point, Texas

4. Grace Russell
b. May 21, 1903
Wills Point, Texas
d. 1985
Wills Point, Texas

m. Kelsey K. Norton

5. Susan Russell
b. 1906

6. Richard Dalton Russell, Jr.
b. November 23, 1906
Wills Point, Texas
d. May 20, 1949
Wills Point, Texas

m. Bernice Teel

7. Walter Thomas "Tuck" Russell
b. 1912
Wills Point, Texas
d. 1969
Wills Point, Texas

K. Eric Allen Russell
b. June 15, 1873
near Boonsboro, Ark.
d. August 14, 1921
Wills Point, Texas

m. Lavera Burnett
February 19, 1896
Wills Point, Texas

1. Ava Jane Russell
b. February 14, 1897
Wills Point, Texas
d. April 20, 1958
Wills Point, Texas

m. Oscar L. Johnson

2. Levera Fay Russell
b. November 24, 1899
Wills Point, Texas
d. November 13, 1918
Wills Point, Texas

m. Henry Hill

3. Mary Sallie Russell
b. September 5, 1901
Wills Point, Texas

m. J. L. Hurley
December 19, 1922
Wills Point, Texas

4. Eric Allen Russell
b. July 4, 1903
Wills Point, Texas
d. August 14, 1921
Wills Point, Texas

5. Ruby Serena Russell
b. January 3, 1905
Wills Point, Texas

m. Ben Cox
Canton, Texas

6. Wynona Russell
b. 1908
Wills Point, Texas
d. 1973
Wills Point, Texas

m. Oran T. Hardy

Dr. William J. P. Russell also signed his name as J. W. Russell and he had a brother, Wallace Randolph Chamberlain Russell, who paid property taxes in Washington County in 1869. Wallace was also born in Lawrenceville, Georgia in 1833 and served in the Georgia Militia as a Lieutenant during the Civil War. He was captured during a battle at Chattanooga, Tennessee and served as a prisoner of war at Johnson Island, Ohio, from 1863-1865. He

married Martha Gray in Crawford County in 1879 and died near Van Buren, Arkansas on May 22, 1883.

Dr. William J. P. Russell and wife Ava left Washington County in 1884 and moved to Wills Point, Texas where he practiced medicine out of an office in Dallas and also traveled throughout the South practicing until his death at Wills Point, Texas in 1892. He was a graduate of the Philadelphia College of Medicine, March 3, 1850, and his two sons -- Seaborn and Ralph -- also became doctors practicing in Little Rock, Arkansas, and Birmingham, Alabama, respectively. One of Seaborn's grandchildren -- William Leon Russell -- retired in Fayetteville as a highly decorated Army Colonel in 1965 where he has lived since that time with his wife, Gladys English Russell. Other grandchildren of Seaborn Russell presently reside in the Fort Smith area. It should also be pointed out that William J. Troutt, who married Sevie O. Russell, was a merchant in Boonsboro (which became Cane Hill) for over twenty years. The family eventually moved to Muldrow, Oklahoma where they farmed.

In conclusion, this Russell family of Washington County, Arkansas was the source for the births of twenty Russell's, Moores' and Troutt's in the county between 1867 and 1884 and was the site for the marriage of the Norwood, Moore and Troutt families. It is a history and heritage which the author is grateful to have uncovered and preserved.

Queries

Am interested in corresponding with other people researching Oxford and related families' histories. Our line, Abel Oxford, b. 1780, North Carolina, Jacob, b. 1801, North Carolina, Andrew L. b. 1855, Arkansas, W. Clint, b. 1889, Arkansas.

Contact: the Oxford Family Assoc., 633 E. Habberton Street, Fayetteville, Ar 72703. Phone (501) 443-2266.

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